

HAVERFORDWEST BOROUGH COUNCIL.

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# REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948.



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FOR THE YEAR 1948.**

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W. J. Y. SPEEDY,  
M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H.



District Health Department,  
10, Picton Place,  
Haverfordwest.  
October, 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Sanitary Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I present my Report upon matters affecting the Public Health in the Borough during the year 1948.

The Birth Rate shows a fall over the 1947 Rate, but still compares favourably with the average Birth Rate. There was a slight rise in the General Death Rate, and it is two points above the average rate. The incidence of Infectious Diseases was small ; the mild winter and good summer had a great deal to do with this. There was an increase of approximately 30 per cent. in the fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and a decrease of 80 per cent. in the fresh cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In the Chapters dealing with Housing, Public Conveniences and Sewage Disposal, matters of importance to the Borough arise.

My thanks are due to all members of the Committee, and the Council, for co-operation and assistance in another year's work. Also to Mr. Bryn Evans, the Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. Hemingway, the Surveyor, and other officials, who have assisted me in every possible way.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. Y. SPEEDY,  
District Medical Officer.

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# VITAL STATISTICS.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Estimated Mid-year Population for 1948 .....  | 7,220. |
| Natural Increase in Population for 1948 ..... | 46.    |

## BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATES.

Summary of Births for 1948 :—

|                    | Live Births. |          |           | Still Births. |         |          |
|--------------------|--------------|----------|-----------|---------------|---------|----------|
|                    | M.           | F.       | Total     | M.            | F.      | Total.   |
| Legitimate ...     | 60           | 67       | 127       | 2             | —       | 2.       |
| Illegitimate ..... | 4            | 8        | 12        | 1             | —       | 1.       |
|                    | <hr/> 64     | <hr/> 75 | <hr/> 139 | <hr/> 3       | <hr/> — | <hr/> 3. |

|                                     |     |        |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Total Births (Live and Still) ..... | 142 | (174). |
| Live Births .....                   | 139 | (170). |
| Still Births .....                  | 3   | (4).   |
| Illegitimate Births .....           | 13  | (12).  |

|   |       |         |
|---|-------|---------|
| Birth Rate for the Borough for 1948 ... | 19.6  | (24.3). |
| “ “ “ Pembrokeshire for 1948            | 17.6  |         |
| “ “ “ England & Wales for 1948 .....    | 17.9. |         |

|   |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
| Still-Birth Rate for the Borough for 1948 ..... | 21.1 | (23). |
| “ “ “ Pembrokeshire for 1948 ...                | 29.5 |       |
| “ “ “ England & Wales for 1948                  | 23.0 |       |

|  |      |         |
|--|------|---------|
| Illegitimate Birth-Rate for the Borough for 1948 ... | 90.8 | (68.8). |
| Illegitimate Birth-Rate for England & Wales for 1948 | 53.0 |         |

## DISCUSSION OF STATISTICS :

There is a large drop in the total number of live births over the number for the preceding year. This has resulted in a drop in the Birth Rate from 24.3 per 1,000 population, to 19.6 per 1,000 of population. However, even with this decrease, the Birth Rate is still higher than the rate for County and for the whole of England and Wales.

The Still-Birth Rate is considerably lower than for the preceding year, and is well below the Rate for the County and England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Birth-Rate is much higher than the Rate for the preceding year, and is also much higher than the Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

## DEATHS AND DEATH RATES.

Summary of Deaths for 1948 :—

|               |          |             |
|---------------|----------|-------------|
| Males .....   | 45       | (41).       |
| Females ..... | 48       | (45).       |
| Total .....   | <hr/> 93 | <hr/> (86). |

|   |      |       |
|---|------|-------|
| Death Rate for the Borough for 1948 .....     | 12.8 | (12). |
| Death Rate for Pembrokeshire for 1948 .....   | 12.3 |       |
| Death Rate for England and Wales for 1948 ... | 10.8 |       |

## MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH :

|   | Male.    | Female.  | Total.   |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System ...                            | 15       | 22       | 37       |
| Cancer (all forms) .....  | 5        | 10       | 15       |
| Diseases of the Brain and Nervous System ...                            | 5        | 5        | 10       |
| Diseases of the Kidneys and Urinary System                              | 5        | 1        | 6        |
| Infectious Diseases (excluding T.B.) .....                              | 4        | 1        | 5        |
| Infant Deaths .....   | 3        | 2        | 5        |
| Diseases of Respiratory System (excluding<br>Infectious Diseases) ..... | 2        | 2        | 4        |
| Diseases of Digestive System .....                                      | 2        | 1        | 3        |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....  | 1        | 2        | 3        |
| Violent Deaths .....  | 2        | —        | 2        |
| Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....  | 1        | —        | 1        |
| Unclassified .....  | —        | 2        | 2        |
|   | <hr/> 45 | <hr/> 48 | <hr/> 93 |

## DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE-GROUPS :

|                           |    |                   |     |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| 0—1 year .....            | 5. | 30—50 years ...   | 3.  |
| 1—15 years .....          | 3. | 50—70 years ..... | 24. |
| 15—30 years .....         | 2. | 70 plus .....     | 45. |
| (11 deaths unclassified). |    |                   |     |

## INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

|  |      |         |
|--|------|---------|
| Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough for<br>1948 .....       | 35.9 | (51.7). |
| Infantile Mortality Rate for Pembrokeshire for<br>1948 .....     | 36.2 |         |
| Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales<br>for 1948 ..... | 34.0 |         |

## MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE.

Maternal Mortality Rate for the Borough for 1948 ... Nil.

## DISCUSSION OF STATISTICS :

There is an increase in the number of the deaths over the preceding year, which makes the Death Rate 12.8 for 1948 as against 12.0 for 1947. The Death Rate has therefore increased slightly, and is higher than the Rates for the County and for the whole of England and Wales.

Cancer again takes second place in the list of causes of death (it took fourth place in 1947). There are almost twice as many deaths from Cancer for the year 1948, as there were for 1947. Cancer accounts for 16.1 per cent. of total deaths, as against 9.3 per cent. for 1947. Well over 50 per cent. deaths from Cancer affected the Digestive System. There is little doubt that Cancer is on the increase, and energetic steps on a National Scale are required to stop the spread of this disease. Making the General Practitioners "Cancer—Conscious," and education of the public, are two measures which are urgently needed.

There are four deaths due to Tuberculosis, and this disease therefore accounts for 4.3 per cent. total deaths: this may be compared with 4.6 per cent. for 1947. There has therefore been a slight decrease in deaths due to Tuberculosis.



Infectious Diseases accounts for 5.4 per cent. of total deaths. This is a reasonably low figure.

There is a drop in the number of deaths due to Violent causes from four in 1947 to two in 1948. Violent Deaths account for 2.1 per cent. total deaths: this is a low figure.

The Infantile Mortality Rate, i.e., the number of deaths of children under one year per 1,000 live births, is much smaller than for 1947, and compares favourably with the Rate for Pembrokeshire and England and Wales.

The Maternal Mortality Rate is nil and hence indicates good Ante-natal, natal, and Post-natal care.

It will be seen from the deaths in age-groups table that 48.4 per cent. of total deaths were in the age-group seventy years or above.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:

|                           | Male. | Female. | Total.    |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-----------|
| Measles .....             | 6     | 5       | 11 (35).  |
| Whooping-Cough .....      | 10    | 5       | 15 (Nil). |
| Scarlet Fever .....       | 1     | 1       | 2 (Nil).  |
| Infantile Paralysis ..... | Nil.  | Nil.    | Nil. (2). |
|                           | <hr/> | <hr/>   | <hr/>     |
|                           | 17    | 11      | 28 37     |

There was a decrease in the incidence of Measles during the year, and Infantile Paralysis, which appeared in 1947, was absent. On the other hand there was an increase in the incidence of Whooping-Cough and Scarlet Fever.

Whooping-Cough has now become the most serious infectious Disease of childhood. This is because Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been controlled by Immunisation and Chemo therapy, respectively. Whooping-Cough is not essentially a fatal disease but it causes a great deal of ill-health in the child population and is a very distressing ailment. It also may lay the foundation for serious chest trouble in later life. It has been claimed in America that Whooping-Cough can be prevented by Immunisation, but this has not been statistically proved as yet in the United Kingdom. Until Immunisation against Whooping-Cough has been proved effective, it is unlikely that Mass Immunisation against the disease will be undertaken on the same lines as Diphtheria Immunisation.

Measles and Whooping-Cough, which were made temporarily notifiable in 1939, were added to the permanent list of notifiable Diseases in 1948.

The following deaths occurred from Infectious Diseases:

|                            | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| Syphilis .....             | 1     | —       | 1.     |
| Pneumonia .....            | 2     | 1       | 3.     |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... | 1     | 2       | 3.     |
| Infantile Diarrhoea .....  | 1     | —       | 1.     |
|                            | <hr/> | <hr/>   | <hr/>  |
|                            | 5     | 3       | 8.     |

Five premises in the Borough were disinfected following Infectious Diseases, during the year.

There is still no reliable information as to the efficiency of immunisation against Whooping-Cough. However, individual doctors, who use it, report that although Whooping-Cough may not be entirely prevented, an attenuated type of illness is apparent in children who have been immunised.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Although Tuberculosis is an Infectious Disease, it is dealt with separately due to its importance. Tuberculosis is usually divided into Pulmonary Tuberculosis i.e. affecting the lungs, and Non-Pulmonary or Surgical Tuberculosis, i.e. affecting other parts of the body. It is proposed to deal with these two types separately.

### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The following fresh cases were notified during the year :

|         |       |        |
|---------|-------|--------|
| Males   | ..... | 6.     |
| Females | ..... | 4.     |
|         |       | —      |
| Total   | ..... | 10 (7) |

The cases occurred in the following age-groups :—

|            |            |             |          |
|------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| 0-5 years  | ..... Nil. | 15-30 years | ..... 7. |
| 5-15 years | ..... 1.   | 30 plus „   | ... 2.   |

The following deaths occurred from Tuberculosis during the year :

|         |       |       |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Males   | ..... | 1.    |
| Females | ..... | 2.    |
|         |       | —     |
| Total   | ..... | 3 (3) |

It will be seen that the number of fresh notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was somewhat greater than for the preceding year : the number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was the same as for 1947.

It will also be noted that the greatest number of cases occurred in the age-group 15-30 years.

The earlier Pulmonary Tuberculosis is diagnosed the easier it is to cure. The means of early diagnosis is at our disposal i.e. Mass Miniature Radiography. This Service should be available to, and used by, every individual at regular intervals until such times as Tuberculosis is eliminated from the community.

Mention must be made of the exceedingly useful work carried out by the staff of the W.N.M.A. (T.B.) Clinic attached to the County Hospital, Haverfordwest, and the associated sanatorii at Sealyham and St. Brides. Valuable assistance and co-operation is given in the prevention and control of Tuberculosis.

The Pre-disposing causes of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are discussed at Appendix A to this Report.

### NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is tuberculosis occurring in parts of the body other than the lungs, i.e. Bones, Joints, Intestines, Brain, etc. It is reckoned that the majority of cases of Non-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis are caused by the Bovine Tuberculosis germ which is often present in the milk of cows suffering from Tuberculosis.

The following fresh cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year :

|         |       |       |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Males   | ..... | 1.    |
| Females | ..... | Nil.  |
|         |       | <hr/> |
|         |       | 1 (5) |

One death from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred during the year, which was the same as for 1947.

It will be seen that there has been a big decrease in the fresh cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year. The small number of cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Borough is undoubtedly due to the high percentage of Designated Milk supplied to the consumers.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

A total of 150 children in the Borough were immunised against Diphtheria during the year. This is an increase upon the number of 112 for the preceding year.

A summary of these Immunisations is as follows :—

|           |       | Initial Immunisation. |         | Re-inforcement. |       | Total. |
|-----------|-------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|-------|--------|
|           |       | Under 5.              | Over 5. | 5-10.           | 10-15 |        |
| Sessional | ...   | 101                   | 16      | 4               | 3     | 124    |
| Private   | ..... | 20                    | 1       | 4               | 1     | 26     |
|           |       |                       |         |                 |       | <hr/>  |
| Total     |       |                       |         |                 |       | 150    |

Under the National Health Service Act which came into force in July, 1948, it is presumed that every child can be immunised privately, free of charge, by the family doctor. It is intended, however, to continue to organise Immunisation sessions for the following reasons :—

1. It is easier and more economical in time and equipment to carry out a session.
2. Children are usually more co-operative and easier to work with in large numbers.
3. It is often easier from a parent's point of view to attend at a centre where all arrangements are made, rather than have to make private arrangements.

No cases or deaths from Diphtheria were notified in the Borough during 1948.

The Statistics for England and Wales as a whole continue to show a declining number of cases and deaths from Diphtheria. The following table illustrates this fact :

| Year. | No. of cases. | No. of Deaths. | Deaths to cases. |
|-------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1941. | 50,797.       | 2,641.         | 5.2.             |
| 1945. | 25,246.       | 694.           | 2.8.             |
| 1947. | 10,467.       | 245.           | 2.3.             |

(See Appendix B for Graph 1935-1947).

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Total Premises in the Borough registered under the Factories Act number 92.

Eighty-five inspections of above premises were carried out during the year. Eleven written notices were served for abatement of nuisances, and improvement of sanitary conditions. No cases were taken to court.

Chief defects were inadequate sanitary accommodation, and general lack of cleanliness.

Out-workers number thirteen. There is a great deal of laxity upon the part of employers to supply lists of out-workers to the Council. This is a statutory duty under the Factories Act.

See Appendix D for Duties of Local Authorities under the Factories Act, 1937.

The working conditions in many workshops and offices are far from satisfactory. This has a detrimental effect upon the health of a large number of young people. I would ask the Council to take strong action in cases of this kind brought to its notice by the officials.

## HOUSING.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

No. of applications for re-housing at 1st Jan., 1948 ... 555.

No. of applications for re-housing at 31st Dec., 1948 ... 530.

No. of families re-housed during 1948 :—

|                  |       |     |
|------------------|-------|-----|
| Permanent Houses | ..... | 24. |
| Temporary Houses | ..... | 1.  |

No. of cases of overcrowding relieved in 1948 ..... 25.

It will be seen that twenty-five families were re-housed during the year. This is a decrease upon the number of families re-housed in 1947.

The statistics show that the need for re-housing is still urgent. Even an approximate figure for overcrowding in the Borough cannot be given. However, on completion of the Housing Survey, at present under way, some light will be thrown upon the question of overcrowding and other important matters.

### HOUSING PROGRAMME AND ESTATES.

The Council's Housing Estates were increased during the year by the following :—

#### New Houses :

|                        |       |      |
|------------------------|-------|------|
| Permanent              | ..... | 20.  |
| Temporary              | ..... | Nil. |
| Hutments               | ..... | 20.  |
| Requisitioned Premises | ..... | Nil. |

In addition to this eleven new houses were erected by private enterprise.

A further fourteen Council houses were commenced during 1948 but not completed. It is estimated that forty-eight Council Houses will be completed in 1949.



The following is a summary of all Housing controlled by the Council as at 31st December, 1948 :—

|                              |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| Council Houses .....         | 328. |
| Huts, etc. ....              | 20.  |
| Requisitioned Premises ..... | 1.   |

### DEMOLITIONS, CLOSING ORDERS, ETC.

The following were dealt with during the year :—

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. No. of Demolition Orders made .....                                | 3. |
| 2. No. of Demolitions carried out .....                               | 3. |
| 3. No. of Undertakings accepted not to use for human habitation ..... | 1. |
| 4. No. of cases where proposals of repairs were accepted .....        | 1. |

### REPAIRS, INSPECTIONS, ETC.

The following is a list of Housing Inspections carried out during the year :—

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Private Premises ..... | 141. |
| Council Premises ..... | 348. |

The following notices for repairs were sent out during the year :—

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Intimation notices ..... | 52. |
| Statutory notices .....  | 13. |

Thirty-nine intimation notices, and thirteen statutory notices were complied with. No cases were taken to Court.

### GENERAL STATE OF HOUSING IN THE BOROUGH.

Owing to the lack of an up-to-date Survey the Housing in the Borough cannot be categorised. A Housing Survey is under way, and it is hoped that by the end of 1949 some idea of the actual state of affairs will be known. There is little doubt that the majority of premises in the Borough fall into Categories three, four or five.

### TEMPORARY HOUSING SITES (HUTMENTS).

| Site.             | No. of Huts. | No. of families. | General condition |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Withybush Site 4. |              |                  |                   |
| Prospect Place    | 20           | 22               | Poor.             |

### CONCLUSION.

The allocation of new houses for the Borough is inadequate to meet the Housing needs.

The need for an up-to-date Housing Survey is great, and it is hoped that this will be available in 1949.

Council Houses are being allocated on the Points System. This System is a good one, but it is generally recognised now that the Points System should be a general guide, not rigidly adhered to. There are desperate cases which fail to qualify on the Points System. It is essential that a personal check upon actual living conditions be made in each application to be considered under the Points System. Also points should be awarded for Sanitary Defects and Overcrowding, which at present are not considered, except where a Demolition Order is made upon the premises.

A more energetic approach towards individual unfit houses, and blocks of unfit houses, is desirable if the general living conditions and the appearance of the Borough are to be improved. Slum clearance should take priority over other schemes for the improvement of the Borough.

## MILK SUPPLIES.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the Producers and Vendors in the Borough :—

|                      |     | Designated.<br>T.T. Acc. | Pasteurised | Ungraded. |
|----------------------|-----|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Producer Wholesalers | ... | 3 —                      | —           | 8         |
| Producer Retailers   | ... | — —                      | —           | 1         |
| Retailers only       | ... | 7 —                      | 1           | 1         |

The approx. amount of each type of milk consumed in the Borough is as follows :—

|                   |       |      |
|-------------------|-------|------|
| Designated (T.T.) | ..... | 95%. |
| Pasteurised       | ..... | 2%.  |
| Ungraded          | ..... | 3%.  |

Thirty inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies were carried out during the year.

### SAMPLING.

The Council's Scheme for the Bacteriological Sampling of Milk supplied to the consumer, was put into full swing during the year. It is endeavoured to sample each vendor once monthly. The actual testing and reporting upon the samples is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen. The Methylene Blue and the B. Coli tests are those performed as a routine. This examination only gives a guide as to the general cleanliness of milk. To determine whether germs detrimental to health are present e.g., Tuberculosis germ, etc., special examination is required.

It should be understood that this Scheme has nothing to do with the sampling of milk for fat content: this work is the responsibility of the County Council.

The general results of sampling throughout the year are as follows :—

|                |       |             |        |
|----------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Satisfactory   | ..... | 86 samples. | 65.6%. |
| Doubtful       | ..... | 15 „        | 11.4%. |
| Unsatisfactory | ..... | 21 „        | 16%.   |
| Unclassified   | ..... | 9 „         | 7%.    |
| Total          |       | ... 131     | 100%.  |

A detailed report of the above sampling will be found at Appendix C.

### CONCLUSION.

The Borough is fortunate in having such a large percentage of Designated Milk supplied to the consumer. This undoubtedly accounts to a large extent for the low incidence of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The amount of Pasteurised milk consumed is small. There is a prejudice against Pasteurised milk in the community. It has been shown that Pasteurisation of milk interferes little, if any, with its nutritive value. Pasteurised milk is a safe milk and can be given to infants and children with an easy mind.

General Bacteriological sampling, as carried out by the Council, undoubtedly has a beneficial effect upon the cleanliness of milk both in production and distribution, and to this extent limits the possibility of dangerous germs contaminating the milk. But it does not guarantee an absolutely safe milk. The general standard of cleanliness of the milk as shown by sampling, has been good, 65.6% of samples being satisfactory.

One Producer-Retailer was called before the Sanitary Committee to show reason why his registration should not be cancelled. This vendor was given a further trial period of six months, but in the meantime sold his milk round and ceased to be a retailer.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Approx. No. of premises with piped water supply ...        | 99.5%.        |
| No. of premises connected during the<br>year .....         | 31.           |
| No. of renewals of old connections dur-<br>ing year .....  | 28.           |
| Average amount of water required daily in<br>Borough ..... | 280,000 gals. |

### SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY.

#### 1. Crowhill Well.

This is a shallow well situated approx. one mile north of the Borough. It is on the western bank of the River Cleddau. The water is pumped from here into the Service Reservoirs at Portfield and City Road. The well supplies approx. 180,000 gallons per day.

A certain amount of sedimentation takes place in the well. Apart from this the only other treatment is chlorination.

At certain times (e.g. after heavy rain) the well becomes heavily contaminated with Coliform Organisms. The quantity of water is greatly reduced by a spell of dry weather. Also has strong corrosive action. For these reasons it is not a good source of water supply.

#### 2. Prescelly Gathering Grounds and Head Works.

This is upland surface water from the Prescelly Hills which is impounded at Prescelly and passed through a modern mechanical filtration plant. It is chlorinated immediately after filtration. The Impounding Reservoir and Treatment Plant is approximately ten miles from the Borough.

Prescelly now supplies water over a large area of South Pembrokeshire. It is a good clean potable water, and is adequately treated at source. However, further impounding and further mains are required before the demand from this source is satisfied.

It would be more satisfactory and beneficial if the Borough could receive all its water from this source. Approx. 100,000 gallons, of the water required in the Borough, comes from this source.

Chlorination of the water should take place at the Service Reservoir level. To rely on chlorination taking place ten miles away is dangerous.

## STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF WATER.

The storage capacity for water in the Borough continues to be inadequate. It is recognised that adequate storage means approximately ten days of supply of water: storage in the Borough amounts to one day's supply.

The water mains in the Borough are in a bad state as reflected by wastage of water and occasional contamination of water passing through the mains. This is a dangerous situation to the health of the Borough.

## SAMPLING.

Bacteriological sampling of water in the Borough is carried out with the co-operation of the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen. Approximately four samples per month are taken as a routine, but when unsatisfactory the samples are taken at weekly or shorter intervals.

For chemical analysis a contract is made with the Public Analyst at Carmarthen to carry out this analysis three times yearly.

The result of sampling during 1948 can be summarised as follows:—

|                     | No. of samples. | Satis. | Doubtful. | Unsatis. |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------|----------|
| Bacteriological ... | 48              | 32     | 5         | 11       |
| Chemical ...        | 5               | 5      | —         | —        |

## CONCLUSION.

Crowhill Well as a source of public water supply should be replaced as soon as possible: or alternately the source could be increased by harnessing the river Cleddau and setting up a proper treatment plant. At times it is an unsatisfactory source of water supply.

Prescelly gathering ground is an ideal source of water. If the Borough could be guaranteed 350,000 to 400,000 gallons per day from this source the problems of water supply would no longer exist.

The Service and Storage Reservoir capacity in the Borough is inadequate. There should be storage capacity for ten days' normal supply, i.e. approximately 3,000,000 gallons of water.

The distribution system of pipes throughout the Borough is undoubtedly in a poor condition and accounts for a considerable wastage of water, as well as spasmodic contamination.

Chlorination is provided at Crowhill and at Prescelly. In the former case the chlorination plant is erratic in action: in the latter case the chlorination plant is good, but is too far away from the consumer. The proper site for chlorination is at the outlet of the Service Reservoir, i.e. just before the water enters the Borough mains.



## FOOD CONTROL.

The following is a summary of the premises in the Borough required to be registered under the Food and Drugs Act :—

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Prepared Food Premises ..... | 24. |
| Ice-Cream .....              | 22. |
| Slaughter-houses .....       | 1.  |

Thirty-nine inspections of Registered Premises were carried out during the year.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year :—

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Tinned Vegetables ..... | 172 tins. |
| „ Meat .....            | 314 „     |
| „ Milk .....            | 151 „     |
| „ Fruit .....           | 109 „     |
| „ Fish .....            | 99 „      |
| „ Jam .....             | 12 „      |

Fresh Vegetables :—

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| „ Potatoes .....    | 2 cwt.    |
| „ Tomatoes .....    | 1160 lbs. |
| Dried Eggs .....    | 14 lbs.   |
| Cheese .....        | 6 boxes   |
| Bacon and Ham ..... | 22 lbs.   |
| Flour .....         | 185 lbs.  |
| Meat .....          | 323 lbs.  |

## HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

### GENERAL NUISANCES.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| No. of Informal notices for abatement of nuisance ...  | 32.  |
| No. of Informal notices complied with .....            | 32.  |
| No. of Statutory notices for abatement of nuisance ... | Nil. |
| No. of Statutory notices complied with .....           | Nil. |
| No. of cases taken to court .....                      | Nil. |

The chief nuisances arising were depositing of refuse, verminous and filthy premises, and defective drains.

### REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Tri-weekly refuse collection operated in the Borough during the year. Two refuse lorries were used for this purpose.

Refuse is disposed off on the Salting Banks at the edge of the River Cleddau south of the Borough.

The proper collection and disposal of refuse is a major factor in maintaining public health. The full importance of this measure is not yet recognised. The collection of refuse during the year was reasonably satisfactory, but the method of tipping is uncontrolled. Controlled tipping is essential to public health, and is a good long term economic policy. The present tip reflects no credit upon the Council as the Sanitary Authority.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There are three all purpose conveniences in the Borough situated in St. Thomas' Green, Dew Street, and Jubilee Gardens, respectively. A further urinal is situated in Friar's Lane.

An additional all purpose convenience, or enlargement of existing conveniences is urgently needed in the Borough.

The convenience in St. Thomas' Green continues to be reasonably satisfactory, but at times, especially during the May and October Fairs, it becomes a nuisance and a danger to Public Health. Measures to supplement the convenience during the Fair times have already been suggested to the Council.

### **SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

The Borough is sewered for the purpose of sewage collection. Approximately 98 per cent. of premises are served. The crude sewage is discharged into the River Cleddau as it passes through the Borough. The river is tidal and sewage is meant to be discharged at high tide only.

There is little doubt that the present sewers are inefficient. Severe nuisance by sewer gas is being caused in the Borough. Also the disposal of crude sewage into the River Cleddau as it passes through the Borough gives rise to a serious nuisance, as well as being a danger to public health. New sewerage and proper sewage disposal system is urgently needed to bring the Borough in line with modern standards of sanitation and hygiene. Also many other Improvement Schemes cannot be considered until the question of sewage is dealt with first.

### **RODENT CONTROL.**

The Council employs a full-time rodent officer. The following is a summary of work carried out during the year :—

Three hundred and forty-two Rodent Surveys and 114 Rodent Campaigns were carried out during the year. It is estimated that 3,020 rats were destroyed.

### **KNACKER'S YARDS.**

Nil in Borough.

### **SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.**

One Slaughter-House is situated in the Borough at the top of the Milford Road.

The Siting, standard of cleanliness, and general maintenance are reasonably satisfactory. The following improvements are required :—

1. Separate storage wanted for condemned meat and offals.
2. More frequent removal of faeces and offal.
3. Provision of suitable washing facilities for meat handlers.

### **SANITATION IN PUBLIC PREMISES.**

There has been some improvement during the year in the standard of sanitation in public houses, hotels, cafes, restaurants, etc. However, the general standard throughout the Borough still leaves much to be desired. Unsatisfactory cases are being dealt with as they arise.

### **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There is one registered offensive trade in the Borough. During the year the production of fish meal was commenced in the ex-P.O.W. camp on the Haven Road. The Council was informed that this activity constituted an Offensive Trade, and to be carried on required registration as such under the Public Health Act, 1936.

As this process was being carried on in a residential neighbourhood, the Council was advised not to grant registration for an Offensive Trade.

#### **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Nil to report.

#### **DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.**

Five premises were disinfected following Infectious Disease during the year. Also six premises were disinfested for bugs and cockroaches.

#### **STREET CLEANSING.**

Street Cleansing was satisfactorily carried out during the year by the Borough Surveyor's Department.

#### **BURIAL OF THE VAGRANT DEAD.**

See Appendix E to this Report for the duties of the Council under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

No case to report in the Borough for 1948.

## APPENDIX A.

### PRE-DISPOSING CAUSES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis is caused by the human tuberculosis germ, which is spread from person to person either directly or indirectly. It is known that practically every person in the Community becomes infected with the tuberculosis germ at some time. In spite of this many persons escape the disease. The reason for this is that there are other pre-disposing factors which hold the balance. The presence of one, or more, of these pre-disposing factors is usually the deciding factor in the onset of Active Tuberculosis. The most important pre-disposing factors are as follows :—

#### 1. Nutrition.

Insufficient food, i.e. defective in quantity, will devitalize the body and lower its resistance to infection with the tuberculosis germ.

But even more important than quantity is the question of quality of food. There are many vitamins and minerals in food which are necessary to maintain the body resistance against disease. To obtain sufficient of these vitamins and minerals naturally a wide and varied diet is necessary.

Nutrition is not only important in adult life, but even more so in childhood, and even before birth. That is why the nutrition of the pregnant woman is also very important.

#### 2. HOUSING AND GENERAL HYGIENE.

There is little doubt that good living conditions in the home materially raises the resistance against Tuberculosis. Dampness, overcrowding, defective ventilation and inadequate natural lighting, are all factors which produce fertile ground for the development of Tuberculosis.

By raising the standards of living a great contribution is made towards the control of Tuberculosis.

#### 3. MODE OF LIFE.

It has already been noted that the majority of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis occur in the age-group 15–30 years, and also the majority of deaths occur in this age-group.

Individuals in this age-group are those approaching maturity, when many of the vital processes of the body are appearing for the first time. This is the time in life, when regular and sufficient sleep, out door recreation, and moderation in all things is essential for future well-being. Too often these essentials are abused with consequent tragic results.

#### 4. Working Conditions.

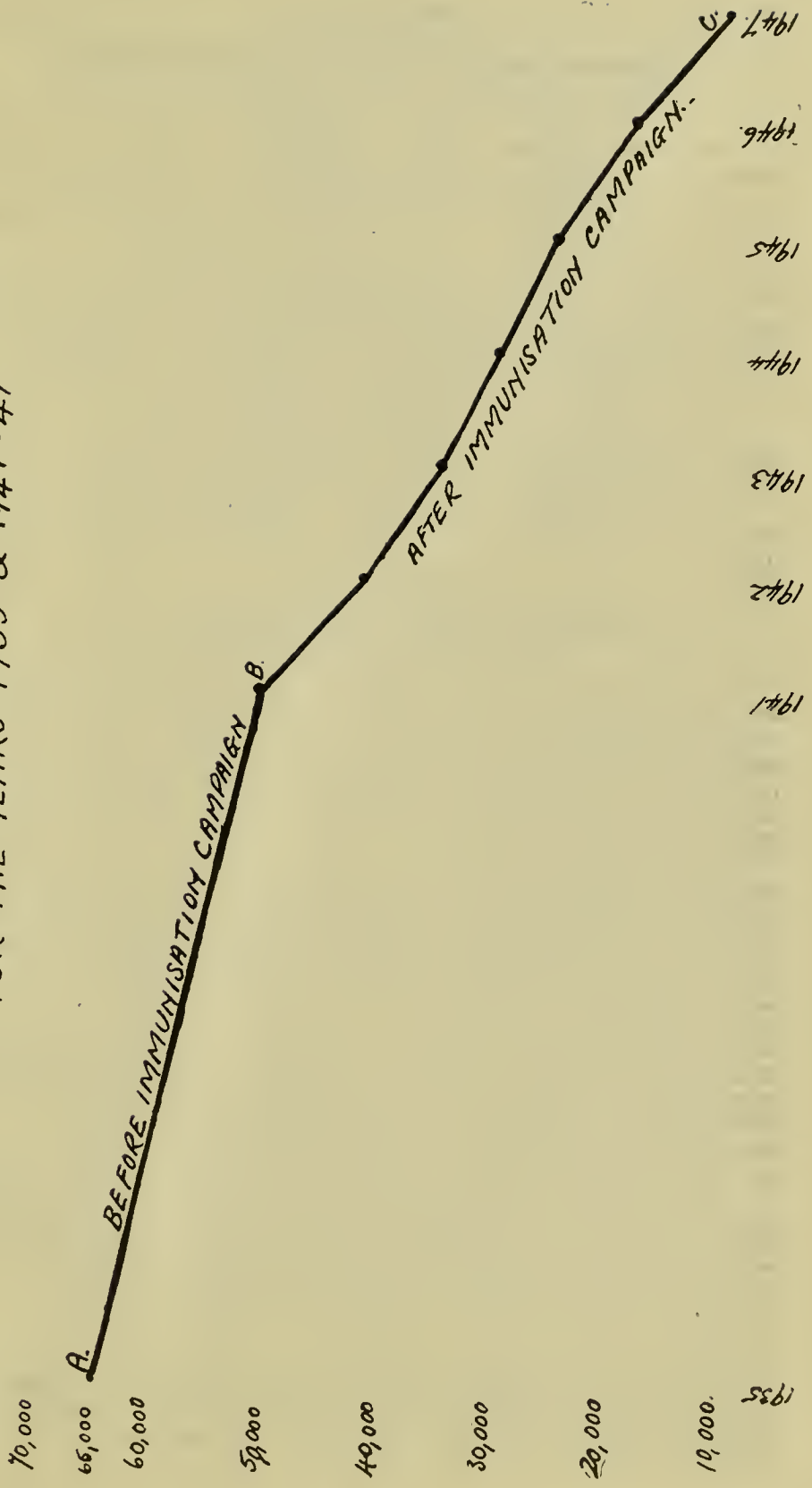
Unhygienic conditions at place of work e.g., bad ventilation, bad lighting, excess of temperature, exposure to draughts, dust, fumes, over-crowding, and unnecessary fatigue, are all factors which will lower the resistance of the individual. Many of these conditions still exist in industrial centres, and undoubtedly have a direct bearing on the incidence of Tuberculosis.

#### 5. PREVIOUS CHEST DISEASE.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Whooping-Cough, all lower the resistance of the body in general, and the lungs in particular, and hence open the way to tuberculosis infection.

# APPENDIX B

## THE INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN ENGLAND & WALES FOR THE YEARS 1935 & 1941-47





## APPENDIX C.

### DETAILED LIST OF MILK SAMPLING FOR 1948.

1. Evans, Little Hook Farm (P-Retailer). (T.T.).  
Six samples ... Six satis.
2. Evans, Heritage Farm (P-Retailer). (T.T.).  
9 samples ... 9 Satis.
3. George, Pennar House (P-Retailer). (Ungraded).  
7 samples ... 4 Satis., 1 Doubtful, 2 Unsatisfactory.
4. Howells, 58a, Predergast (Retailer). (T.T.).  
10 samples ... 7 Satis., 2 Doubtful, 1 Unsatisfactory.
5. Jenkins, Glanafon (P-Retailer). (T.T.).  
9 samples ... 7 Satis., 1 Doubtful, 1 Unsatisfactory.
6. Jones, Slade Hall Farm (P-Retailer). (Ungraded).  
7 samples ... 5 Satis., 2 Doubtful.
7. Lewis, Cethins Farm (P-Retailer). (T.T.).  
7 samples ... 4 Satis., 2 Doubtful, 1 Unsatisfactory.
8. Park House Dairy Co. (Retailer). (T.T.).  
58 samples ... 44 Satis., 5 Doubtful, 9 Unsatisfactory.
9. Peters, Sunnyhill Farm (P-Retailer). (T.T.).  
9 samples ... 1 Satis., 2 Doubtful, 6 Unsatisfactory.

## APPENDIX D.

### DUTIES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

(a) Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1937 as to sanitary conveniences and any Regulations made under that Section are enforced by the Local Authority whether Mechanical power is used in the Factory or not.

(b) Provisions as to temperature are also enforced by Local Authorities in Factories in which mechanical power is not used together with the provision as to cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation and drainage of floors.

(c) The Local Authority is required to keep a register of all Factories situate within its district which come under its jurisdiction. The Medical Officer of Health and all other officers appointed for the purpose of inspection of Factories has a duty to give written noticeto H.M. District Inspector of Factories of any factory coming to their knowledge in which no Abstract of the Act is affixed.

(d) The Medical Officer of Health has in addition further administrative powers regarding approval of alternative methods of cleaning walls, etc., and to grant certificates exempting certain working rooms from the provisions of Section 2 (ii) of the Act where expensive materials are manufactured or handled.

(e) Means of escape in case of Fire are dealt with under Section 34 and 35 of the Act and it is an offence for any premises to be used as a Factory unless there is in force a certificate from the Local Authority describing in detail the means of escape and particulars of the maximum number of persons employed.

The Factories to which Section 34 applies are :—

(a) All Factories in which more than twenty persons are employed;

(b) Factories being constructed or converted for use as Factories on 30th July, 1937, or constructed or so converted after that date, in which more than ten persons are employed in the same building on any floor above the ground floor of the building;

(c) Factories of which the construction has been completed before the 30th July, 1937, and in which more than ten persons are employed in the same building above the first floor of the building or more than twenty feet above the ground level.

(d) Factories in or under which explosive or highly inflammable materials are stored or used.

## APPENDIX E.

### DUTIES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES UNDER THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

#### Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

(1) It shall be the duty of every authority to which this subsection applies to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made otherwise than by the authority.

(2) The authorities to which the last foregoing subsection applies are the councils of county boroughs and county districts and the authorities which are sanitary authorities for the purposes of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and in Scotland county and town councils.

(3) The council of a county, county borough or large burgh may cause to be buried or cremated the body of any deceased person who immediately before his death was being provided with accommodation under part III. of this Act by, or by arrangement with, the council or was living in a hostel provided by the council under section twenty-nine of this Act.

(4) An authority may recover from the estate of the deceased person or from any person who for the purposes of this Act was liable to maintain the deceased person immediately before his death expenses incurred under subsection (1) or subsection (3) of this section and not re-imbursed under the next following subsection.

(5) The provisions of subsection (5) of section twenty-two of the National Insurance Act, 1946 (which enable the Minister of National Insurance to make payments to certain authorities out of the National Insurance Fund in respect of the cost of burial or cremation of certain persons) shall apply to all authorities to which subsection (1) of this section applies.

(6) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section shall affect any enactment regulating or authorising the burial, cremation or anatomical examination of the body of a deceased person; and an authority shall not cause a body to be cremated under this section where they have reason to believe that cremation would be contrary to the wishes of the deceased.

(7) The Burial of Drowned Persons Act, 1808, and the Burial of Drowned Persons Act, 1886, shall cease to have effect.

An authority providing accommodation under Part III. of the Act can incur this expenditure (Sub-s. 3).

No such power is given to the Minister or a Regional Hospital Board in respect of the burial of a person dying in hospital. Where, therefore, arrangements are not made by relatives or friends this responsibility will devolve on the county borough council, or, in counties, the county district council (not the county council) for the area in which the hospital is situated.

As from July 5th, 1949, a death grant will be payable under the National Insurance Act, 1946, s. 22. Under regulations to be made by the Minister of National Insurance payments may then be made to a local authority where the burial has been carried out by the authority.

## APPENDIX F.

### SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT AT SLAUGHTER-HOUSE FOR 1948.

#### Total Animals Slaughtered and examined :—

|        |       |             |
|--------|-------|-------------|
| Cattle | ..... | 1893.       |
| Calves | ..... | 3087.       |
| Sheep  | ..... | 9023.       |
| Pigs   | ..... | 118.        |
| Total  |       | ... 14,121. |

#### Condemned Cattle :—

|                                     |       |         |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Carcases : Generalised Tuberculosis | ...   | 23.     |
| Emaciation                          | ..... | 10.     |
| Septicaemia                         | ..... | 3.      |
| Pericarditis                        | ..... | 2.      |
| Uraemia                             | ..... | 1.      |
| Redwater                            | ..... | 1.      |
| Black Leg                           | ..... | 1.      |
| Dropsy                              | ..... | 1.      |
| Accident cases                      | ..... | 2.      |
| Total                               |       | ... 44. |

#### Regional :—

|        |       |      |
|--------|-------|------|
| Livers | ..... | 994. |
| Lungs  | ..... | 409. |
| Heads  | ..... | 109. |

One case of Cysticerous Bovis was discovered during the year.

#### Condemned Calves :—

|                         |       |         |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|
| Carcases : Immature     | ..... | 10.     |
| Black Leg               | ..... | 1.      |
| Congenital Tuberculosis | ..... | 1.      |
| Total                   |       | ... 12. |

#### Condemned Sheep:

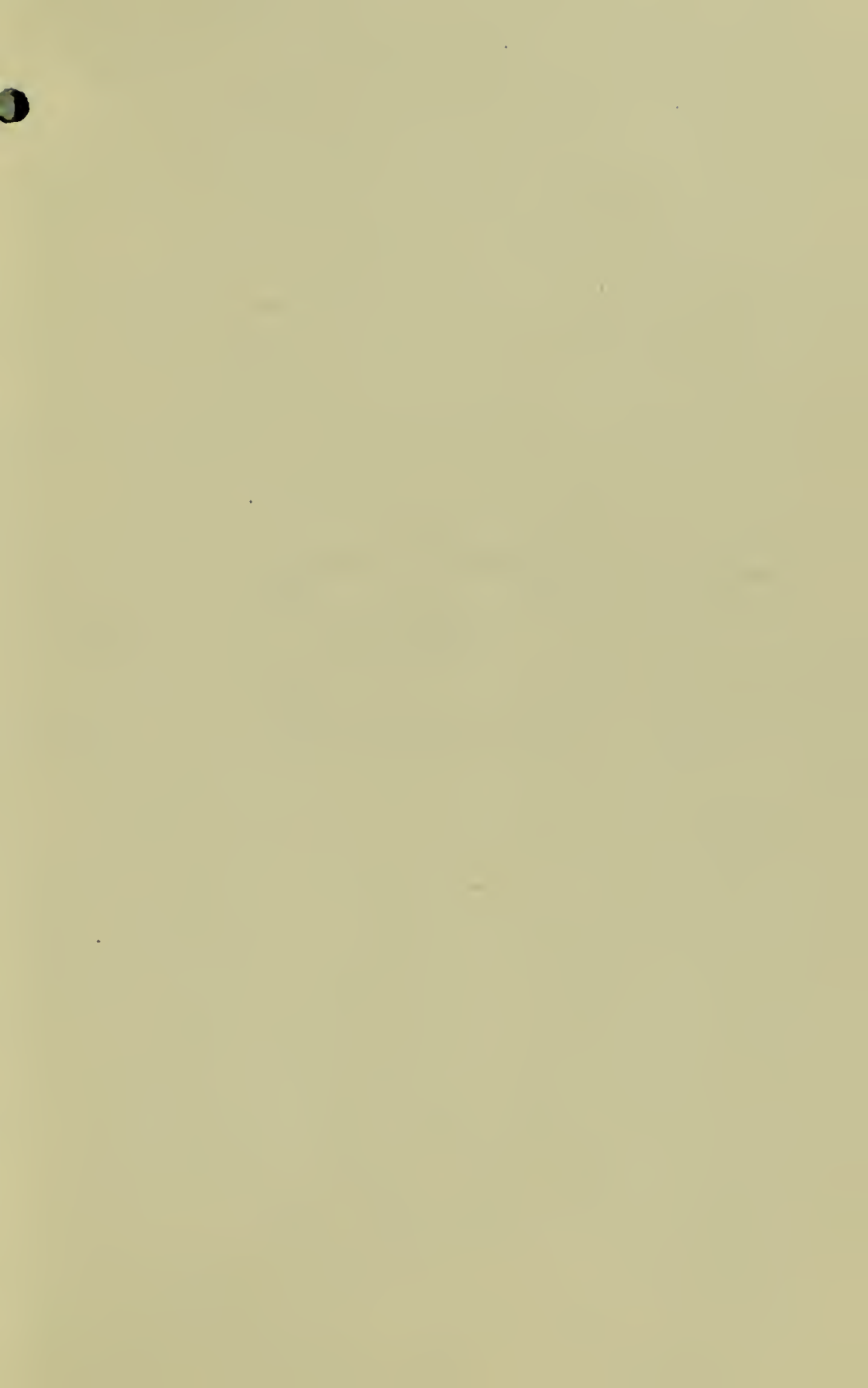
|                      |       |         |
|----------------------|-------|---------|
| Carcases : Hydraemia | ..... | 13.     |
| Emaciated            | ..... | 4.      |
| Lymphadenitis        | ..... | 3.      |
| Moribund             | ..... | 2.      |
| Dropsy               | ..... | 1.      |
| Metritis             | ..... | 1.      |
| Total                |       | ... 24. |

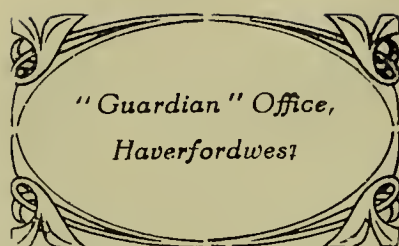
Offal : Livers ..... 1310.

#### Condemned Pigs :

|                                     |       |        |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Carcases : Generalised Tuberculosis | ..... | 3.     |
| Sarcoma                             | ..... | 1.     |
| Greenbone                           | ..... | 1.     |
| Accident                            | ..... | 1.     |
| Total                               |       | ... 6. |







*" Guardian " Office,*  
*Haverfordwest*



